

Claims:-

1. A non-therapeutic method of producing antibodies that bind adipose tissues in a target animal in need of said antibodies for modulating the content of adipose tissues in said target animal, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (i) preparing an antigen from adipose tissues of a source animal wherein said source animal and said target animal belong to closely related species;
 - (ii) administering said antigen to an egg laying animal to cause production of said antibodies wherein said egg-laying animal and said target animal belong to different species; and
 - (iii) obtaining said antibodies from eggs of said egg-laying animal wherein said egg-laying animal and said source animal belong to different species.
2. A method according to Claim 1 comprising a step of causing production of said antibodies from within the body of said egg-laying animal.
3. A method according to Claim 1 or 2 comprising a step of causing deposition of said antibodies to said eggs of said egg-laying animal.

4. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said step of obtaining comprises a step of isolating
said antibodies from the egg yolk of said eggs.

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5. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said antigen comprises plasma membrane, its
adipocyte plasma membrane surface proteins, or
fragments thereof, of said adipose tissues of said
source animal.

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6. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said antibodies are polyclonal antibodies.

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7. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said source animal and said egg-laying animal belong
to distinctly different species.

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8. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said target animal and said egg-laying animal belong
to distinctly different species.

9. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said target animal is a farm animal.

10. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said source animal and/or said target is a swine.

11. A method according to any one of Claims 1 to 8
wherein said target animal is a patient.
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12. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said egg-laying animal is an avian animal and said
source animal is a non-avian animal.

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13. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
said source animal is a mammal.

14. A method according to any preceding claim wherein
15 one or more of said animals is sacrificed after said
method.

15. Antibodies obtainable according to the method
defined in any one of Claims 1 to 14.

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16. Antibodies according to Claim 15 for use in a method
of treatment or diagnosis.

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17. Use of antibodies defined in Claim 15 or 16 for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition caused by an excess of adipocytes.

5 18. A feed additive comprising an effective amount of antibodies defined in Claim 15 or 16.

10 19. A feed additive according to Claim 18 adapted to lower the content of said adipose tissues in said target animal.

20. A feed additive according to Claim 18 or 19 wherein said composition comprises egg yolk of said eggs containing said antibodies.

15 21. A medicament comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of antibodies defined in Claim 15 or 16.

20 22. A medicament according to Claim 21 adapted to be administered via ingestion.

23. A medicament according to Claim 21 adapted to be administered via injection.

25 24. A method of modulating content of adipose tissues in the body of a target animal in need of antibodies, comprising the steps of:

- (i) preparing an antigen from adipose tissues of a source animal;
- (ii) administering said antigen to an egg-laying animal;
- 5 (iii) allowing said antibodies to be produced by said egg-laying animal in response to said antigen;
- (iv) obtaining said antibodies from eggs of said egg-laying animal; and
- 10 (v) administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of said antibodies to said target animal by ingestion, wherein said source animal and said egg-laying animal belong to different species.

25. A method according to Claim 24 wherein said step of obtaining comprises a step of isolating said antibodies from the egg yolk of said eggs.

15 26. A method according to Claim 24 or 25 comprising a step of binding said antibodies to characterizing components of plasma membrane of said adipose 20 tissues in said target animal.

25 27. A method according to Claim 24, 25 or 26 comprising a step of binding said antibodies to granular viscosity proteins of said adipose tissues in said target animal.

28. A method according to Claim 24, 25 or 26 comprising
a step of binding said antibodies to fiber viscosity
proteins of said adipose tissues in said target
animal.
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29. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 28
wherein said antigen comprises plasma membrane, its
adipocyte plasma membrane surface proteins, or
fragments thereof, of said adipose tissues of said
source animal.
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30. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 29
wherein said antibodies are polyclonal antibodies.
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31. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 30
wherein said source animal and said egg-laying
animal belong to distinctly different species.
- 20 32. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 31
wherein said target animal and said egg-laying
animal belong to different species.
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33. A method according to Claim 32 wherein said target
animal and said egg-laying animal belong to
distinctly different species.

34. A method according to any one Claims 24 to 33
wherein said target animal and said source animal
belong to a same species.

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35. A method according to any one Claims 24 to 33
wherein said target animal and said source animal
belong to a closely related species.

10 36. A method according any one of Claims 24 to 36
wherein said method is a non-therapeutic method.

37. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 36
wherein said target animal is a farm animal.

15 38. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 37
wherein said source animal and/or said target is a
swine.

20 39. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 36
wherein said target animal is a patient.

40. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 39
wherein said egg-laying animal is an avian animal
and said source animal is a non-avian animal.

41. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 40
wherein said source animal is a mammal.
42. A method according to any one of Claims 24 to 41
wherein one or more of said animals is sacrificed
after said method.
43. A method of producing antibodies that bind adipose
tissues in a target animal in need of said
antibodies for modulating the content of adipose
tissues in said target animal, the method comprising
the steps of:
(i) preparing an antigen from adipose tissues
of a source animal wherein said source animal
and said target animal belong to closely
related species;
(ii) administering said antigen to an egg-laying
animal to cause production of said antibodies
wherein said egg-laying animal and said target
animal belong to different species; and
(iii) obtaining said antibodies from eggs of said
egg-laying animal wherein said egg-laying
animal and said source animal belong to
different species.